

joint between the reinforcement region (4) and the intermediate elements (2) defining continuous joint surfaces (40a, 40b and 20a, 20b) and a seal formed between the continuous joint surfaces between the reinforcement regions (4) and the intermediate elements (2);

one continuous joint surface including a cut-out;

the other continuous joint surface including a protrusion for extending into the cut-outs for positioning the reinforcement region and the intermediate elements at the seal of the continuous joint surfaces with respect to each other;

the continuous joint surface including the cut-out providing an upwardly extending sealing surface unobstructed by a protrusion to enable machining access for adjusting the length of the static mixer.

REMARKS

This Amendment Under 37 CFR 1.116 is responsive to the Final Rejection mailed August 8, 2002. In this Amendment, applicants traverse the rejection under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, and submit a revised claim 11 which is believed to clearly set forth the invention and eliminate confusion.

Rejection under 35 USC 112, first paragraph

The rejection objects to the original specification. The rejection states:

While the original specification describes machining to make a subcombination mixer element which may be assembly (sic) to make a mixer, the specification does not describe machining to adjust the length of an assembled mixer. Therefore, in the context of claim 11 which is a claim to an assembled mixer, it is considered that the discussion of the function "to provide machining access to one of the reinforcement region and the